

THE AMERICAN LEGION

(Copy for This Department Supplied by the American Legion News Service.)

MACNIDER, NEW LEGION HEAD

Mason City (Ia.) Man Is Chosen National Commander of the American Legion.

"We must build this Legion of ours so big and fine and strong, keep it so clean and straight and American, that when we ask for things for the ex-service man, for the disabled man and for those who are financially disabled our communities will say, 'If the Legion is for it, we are for it.'"

This was the first message of Hanford MacNider to members of the American Legion, following his election as national commander of the organization. Mr. MacNider is the



HANFORD MACNIDER.

Newly Elected National Commander of the American Legion.

youngest national commander the Legion has ever had. He is thirty-four years old.

"He is a natural leader of men," say his friends, who have watched him plug his way through Harvard university and who later saw him come out of the World war a lieutenant colonel with three citations and several decorations.

His military record begins with his service on the Mexican border in 1916 as a first lieutenant with the Second Iowa Infantry. When the United States entered the World war he enrolled at the officers' training camp at Fort Snelling and was sent to France as a provisional second lieutenant in the regular army. In France he was with the Ninth Infantry of the Second division. He was wounded at St. Mihiel.

Mr. MacNider is an investment banker at Mason City, Ia., where he was born. He has been an active Legionnaire and has served as commander of the Iowa state department of the Legion.

HEAD OF LEGION AUXILIARY

Mrs. Lowell F. Hobart of Cincinnati Is the New President of the Women's Organization.

Mrs. Lowell F. Hobart of Cincinnati, the first national president of the American Legion Women's auxiliary, is one of those "war mothers" who served in the great "second army." When her son joined the colors and was sent to Camp Zachary Taylor, Kentucky, she went with him. There she worked daily as a Red Cross supervisor and at night she instructed a class in Red Cross work.

Today Mrs. Hobart is at the head of one of the largest organizations of women in the world. The Legion auxiliary has a membership of about 125,000, having grown from 3,000 in the last year. The organization is composed of mothers, wives, sisters and children of ex-service men.

The Best Available.

The new servant had presented her references, and the lady of the house read them over with a doubtful eye. "I'm not quite satisfied with these, Bridget," she said.

"Nayther am I, mum," returned Bridget angrily, "but they're the best the old fawd would give me."—American Legion Weekly.

Practice Makes Perfect.

Burns—That grocer certainly gives light weight. I bet he was a profiteer during the war.

Stern—Oh, no, he was mess sergeant in my outfit.—American Legion Weekly.

Carrying On With the American Legion

Lemuel Bolles of Seattle, Wash., has been elected national adjutant of the American Legion for his third term.

Yellow Medicine is the tenth county in Minnesota to make "American Legion Day" a regular event of its county fair.

"The Pajama Gazette" is the name of a publication edited by the disabled soldiers of Ashbury hospital at Minneapolis, Minn.

The bodies of Gunmar Dahl and David Thor, "pals," killed in France by the same shell, were buried in the same grave in their native Illinois town.

New Orleans will be the scene of the 1922 national convention of the American Legion. The Southern city guaranteed \$100,000 for defraying expenses of the meeting.

Mayor Hoan of Milwaukee, Wis., has vetoed a resolution of the city council indorsing the work of the American Legion in finding positions for jobless ex-service men.

"I am convinced that the American Legion is an established power in the United States—a power for truth and equality," declared Marshal Foch at the close of the American Legion's national convention at Kansas City.

A monumental building to be erected in Washington in memory of the National Guardsmen who gave their lives in the World war, has been suggested by Maj. Gen. George C. Rickards, chief of the militia bureau of the War department.

The growth of the American Legion is shown by the organization of 1,050 new posts in 1920-21. Many new posts were organized by American ex-service men in foreign countries and today the sun never sets on the American Legion.

The daisy has been adopted by the American Legion as its official flower. The poppy, which has been popular with Legionnaires because of its association with Flanders, was voted out because it was not an American flower and could not be obtained in large quantities.

The employment of jobless ex-service men to assist the police in combating the holdup men has been begun in Lincoln, Neb. The plan was evolved following a series of robberies in the residential district of the city. The mayor and chief of police of Lincoln have indorsed the plan.

Following a reception for him at Kansas City, staged by 50,000 members of the American Legion, Marshal Foch, who came to America as the Legion's guest, declared that although Washington and New York were the head of the United States he was certain Kansas City was the heart.

The original post of the American Legion, George Washington Post No. 1, lost no time in signing Marshal Foch as a member. The generalissimo was met at the station at Washington, D. C., on the day of his arrival in America and presented with a membership card and a ceremonial badge of the Legion.

Marshal Foch is now a devotee of the corn-cob pipe. When his special train was stopped at Washington, Mo., on its way to Kansas City, he was presented with a box of the Missouri product. Later, while he was attending the American Legion convention, he was offered a cigar, but he declined in favor of the corn-cob "furnace."

More than 30,000 bodies of Americans who died in France during the World war will rest forever in the sacred soil near the battlefields. Secretary of War Weeks declared in a recent letter to the American Legion at Washington. A total of 43,670 bodies have been returned to the United States, according to the war secretary.

"If you will walk down Main street, U. S. A.," writes George F. Kearny in a widely published magazine article, "you will come to a building which houses the American Legion post of the town. It is the most democratic institution that can be found and the discussions of the post are worthy of the closest study as an index of the future."

A survey recently conducted by the American Legion shows that between 600,000 and 700,000 service men are out of employment in the United States. The East has a greater percentage of jobless men than any other section of the country, with 150,000 former soldiers, sailors and marines in New York alone, without regular employment, many in actual want.

Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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LESSON FOR DECEMBER 4

PAUL IN MELITA AND ROME.

LESSON TEXT—Acts 28:1-3.
GOLDEN TEXT—I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth.—Rom. 1:16, 18.

REFERENCE MATERIAL—Mark 16:18; Rom. 1:16-17.
PRIMARY TOPIC—The End of Paul's Journey.

JUNIOR TOPIC—The End of a Long Journey.
INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Paul Living in Rome.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Paul's Ministry in Rome.

I. The Shipwrecked Crew on Melita (vv. 1-10).

Through the storm they lost their bearings, and when they were safe on land they learned that the island was called Melita.

1. The hospitable reception of the natives (v. 2). They built a fire and made them as comfortable as possible from the cold and the rain.

2. Paul gathering sticks for a fire (v. 3). This is a fine picture of the world's greatest preacher and missionary not above picking up sticks for a fire. The ability and disposition to serve naturally in whatever way is the evidence of capacity for great commissions.

3. Paul bitten by a venomous serpent (v. 3). With the sticks that Paul gathered there was a serpent. Perhaps it had already curled itself up for its winter sleep, but when the warmth of the fire aroused it it darted at Paul and fixed its fangs upon his hand. The natives expected to see him fall down dead, yet he shook it off, nothing harmed. At first the natives concluded that he was an escaped murderer and that this was retributive justice being meted out to him. When they saw that he was unharmed they concluded that he was a god.

4. Paul heals Publius' father (vv. 7-10). These people are now getting some return for their kindness. When this man of note was healed others came also and were healed. To this they responded in appreciation by loading them down with necessary supplies.

II. Paul Arrives at Rome (vv. 11-16).

When Paul landed at Rome Christ's charge to the disciples was fulfilled. After three months' stay at Melita, Paul departs for Rome in the ship Alexandria, whose sign was Castor and Pollux. At Syracuse they were delayed three days, perhaps for favorable winds. At Puteoli he found brethren, at whose request he tarried seven days. At Appollonia and at the Three Taverns brethren from Rome met him. From Puteoli the news went before Paul's coming, and so interested were the brethren that they came more than forty miles to meet him. This greatly encouraged him, for which he gave God thanks. No one, perhaps, ever enjoyed more close fellowship with God, and yet no man ever enjoyed more and derived more benefit from human fellowship than he. His readiness to preach the gospel at Rome, which he had expressed in the Epistle to the Romans, written from Corinth about three years before, was now realized. He was treated with great leniency at Rome, for he was allowed to hire a house there and live alone except that the soldier that remained his guard was constantly with him. Being chained to a soldier was rather irksome, but yet it gave him a chance to preach to the soldiers which he could not have had any other way. He rejoiced in whatever circumstances, just so the gospel was preached.

III. Paul's Ministry in Rome (vv. 17-31).

1. His conference with the leading Jews (vv. 17-22). He did not, as usual, wait for the Sabbath day to speak to the Jews. He only allowed one day for rest. His object was to have a fair understanding with them. When they came he endeavored to conciliate them. He told them that, though he came as a prisoner, he was not a criminal. Though his own countrymen had so sought his life, he did not come with an accusation against them. The result of this interview was that the Jews cautiously took neutral ground, but expressed a desire to hear what Paul could say in defense of a sect which was everywhere spoken against. The fact that this sect was spoken against is no evidence that it was wrong. Many times a thing may be wrong in men's minds, because their judgments are biased. If a thing is right in the sight of God it matters not what men think about it.

2. Paul expounding the kingdom of God and persuading concerning Jesus (vv. 23-31). He pointed out a real kingdom—the Messianic Kingdom with Jesus as the King.

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